1. **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**:

1. (Previously Presented) In combination a tube for storing micro-litre volumes and a multi-well plate having a top surface and a bottom surface and through bores having a substantially square cross section parallel to the top and bottom surfaces extending through the plate from the top surface to said bottom surface, said through bores for receiving one tube in a corresponding one of the through bores in said multi-well plate, the tube having first and second ends, the tube being open at the first end and a second closed end, the second end of the tube for engaging the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, the tube comprising:

a body portion of substantially square cross section corresponding to the cross section of the through bores;

a shoulder portion near said one end of the body portion and providing the open end of the tube, the cross section of the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and,

a deformable formation having a cross section larger than the cross section of the bores providing a connector portion at the second end of the tube, said formation being deformable to fit through the through bore and to extend through the bottom surface to form a snap fit engagement with said bottom surface of the multi-well plate.

2. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 1, further comprising a closure member disposed to close the open end.

3. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 2, wherein the closure member comprises a foil cap.

4. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 2, wherein the closure member is a self-sealing member.

5. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 4, wherein the self-sealing closure member is a split septum.

6. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 1, wherein the body and shoulder portions are formed separately from the snap fit connector portion.

7. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 6, wherein the snap fit connector portion has a dot code on it.

8. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 6, wherein the body and shoulder portions are formed from a translucent or transparent material.

9. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 8, further comprising a spigot at the interface between the body portion and the formation .

10. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 1, wherein the body portion and snap fit connector portion are co-moulded.

11. (Previously Presented) In combination a tube for storing fluid and a multi-well plate having a top surface and a bottom surface and through bores having a substantially square cross section parallel to the top and bottom surfaces extending through the plate from the top surface to said bottom surface, said through bores for receiving one tube in a corresponding one of the through bores in said multi-well plate, the tube having first open end and a second closed end , the closed end for engaging the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, the tube comprising:

a body portion of substantially square cross section corresponding to the cross section of the through bores;

a shoulder portion near said first end of the body portion and providing the open end of the tube, the cross section of the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and

a deformable flared portion at the second end of the tube having a cross section greater than the through bores and being deformable to fit through the through bore and to extend through the bottom surface to form a snap fit engagement with the bottom surface of the multi-well plate

said flared portion having an identification code provided thereon.

12. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 11, wherein the connector and body portions are formed separately from different materials.

13 (Previously Presented) A tube for storing fluid for use with a multi-well plate having a bottom surface and through bores having a substantially square cross section extending through the plate to said bottom surface, said through bores for receiving one tube in a corresponding one of the through bores in said multi-well plate, the tube having a first open end and a second closed end the closed end of the tube for engaging the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, the tube comprising:

a body portion having a substantially square cross section corresponding to the cross section of the through bores;

a shoulder portion near said first end of the body portion above the square cross section, the cross section of the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and

a deformable flared connector portion at the second end of the tube having a cross section greater than the through bores and being

deformable to fit through the through bore and to extend through the bottom surface to form a snap fit engagement with the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, said flared connector portion having an identification code provided thereon.

14. (Previously Presented) A tube for storing fluid comprising:

a body portion having a substantially square cross section, an open upper end and a closed lower end;

a shoulder portion spaced below the upper end, the cross section of the body portion above the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and

a deformable flared connector portion at the lower end of the tube having a cross section greater than the body portion and being deformable, said flared connector portion having an identification code provided thereon.

Add the following new claims:

15. (New) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the shoulder has a cross section larger than the body and the formation has a size larger than the body.

16. (New) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the square cross section of the bore extends between the parallel top and bottom surfaces of the plate and the square cross section of the tube is aligned with the bore.

17. (New) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the snap fit engagement secures the tube in the plate for preventing unintentional separation of the tube from the plate.

18. (New) In combination a tube for storing micro-litre volumes and a multi-well plate having a top surface and a bottom surface and through

bores having a substantially square cross section parallel to the top and bottom surfaces extending through the plate from the top surface to said bottom surface, said through bores for receiving one tube in a corresponding one of the through bores in said multi-well plate, the tube having first and second ends, the tube being open at the first end and a second closed end, the second end of the tube for engaging the bottom surface of the multi-well plate, the tube comprising:

a body portion of substantially square cross section corresponding to the cross section of the through bores;

a shoulder portion near said one end of the body portion and providing the open end of the tube, the cross section of the shoulder portion being greater than that of the body portion; and,

a deformable formation tapering outwardly from the closed end of the tube having a cross section larger than the cross section of the bores providing a connector portion at the second end of the tube, said formation being deformable to fit through the through bore and to extend through the bottom surface to form a snap fit engagement with said bottom surface of the multi-well plate.